INTERPELLATION.	ANSWER.
(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state the result of any inquiries they have made as to the causes which have led to this rapid and unforeseen rise in the price of fuel and the scarcity thereof ?	Government have not made any special enquiries.
(*c*) What steps have the Government taken or propose to take to bring down without delay the price of fuel and to provide supplies of fuel adequate for the needs of domestic consumption ?	(*c*), (*d*), (*e*) and (*g*). To ensure continuance of adequate supply to the town of Trivandrum, the tree-growth on 700 acres of unreserved lands near Nedumangad has been sold. As regards the Nagercoil depot, efficient and satisfactory arrangements are reported to have been made. Large quantities of firewood from private lands are also, it is reported coming in.
(*d*) Are Government aware that there is a wide-spread popular feeling that the shortage and phenomenal rise in price of fuel are due to the absence of due provision in the Forest Department and of a definite and continuous policy in regard to the development and exploitation of the fuel resources of the State ?	Government, however, are not generally, in favour of maintaining firewood depots and thus competing with private enterprise in the matter. Firewood trade is neither a monopoly nor a duty of Government. In British India and other places, the sale of firewood is not undertaken by Government. The Conservator of Forests is prepared to make arrangements for the sale of tree-growth on large areas to enable purchasers to start firewood depots. Such depots will greatly help in keeping the market rate at its level.
(*e*) Is it a fact that, on account of the failure of Government to provide the market with an adequate supply of fuel, virtual monopolies have been created in favour of people who have been working fuel from registered Puthuvals, and other private estates ?	Government have no information on the point.
(*f*) Is it a fact that the imposition of export duty on fuel has not resulted in any appreciable reduction in the price thereof ?	
(*g*) Will Government be pleased to enquire into the circumstances above set forth and publish the results of their enquiries in order to allay popular apprehensions ?	
11. II (*a*). Will Government be pleased to place before the Council a statement showing the number of Travancore Secondary School Leaving Certificate students qualified to enter on Intermediate Course at the commencement of the last three academic years and the number actually admitted in each of these years in Travancore Colleges ?	*Secretary Mr. S. Parameswara Iyer.* The appended statement gives particulars of the number of English School Leaving Certificate holders declared eligible for admission to Colleges at the commencement of the last three academic years, and the number actually admitted in each of these years in the several Colleges, both departmental and aided, in Travancore.
(*b*) Are the Government aware that there is a wide-spread feeling that a very large proportion of Travancoreans are obliged to seek admission in institutions outside the State because they are unable to get admission in Travancore ?	Of those who are eligible for admission, some do not enter on a College course, others go to Colleges outside Travancore where provision is made for instruction in Natural Science (Group I4. Intermediate), and yet others seek certain Missionary institutions outside the State where special concessions are afforded to them. After the numbers under these three heads are eliminated, there is still a residue of eligibles who resort to Colleges outside Travancore for study, because they are unable to obtain admission in the Colleges within the State. The number of those pupils is not as large as ordinarily estimated. Government are aware of the public feeling in this matter, but they consider that much of the feeling is not founded on a correct knowledge of facts.

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INTERPELLATION.

(*c*) Is it a fact that the restriction in the number of admissions in His Highness the Maha Raja's College for Boys in all the classes is due to lack of accommodation? If so, will Government be pleased to state what steps they have taken to extend the accommodation so as to give facilities for more admissions?

(*d*) Will Government be pleased to declare if they have taken steps to ensure that no Travancorean qualified for admission shall be put to the necessity of going out of the State in the ensuing academic year? If they have not done so, will they be prepared to make such provision without delay?

12. III. Will the Government be pleased to place before the Council a statement giving the number and value of the coins and currency notes of different denominations constituting the Treasury Balances at the commencement of the current financial year and the four preceding years?

Mr. Kayalam Parameswaran Pillai.

13. I. With reference to the representations in the Popular Assembly demanding a Law for compulsory partition in Nair Tarawads, will the Government be pleased to state whether they have come to any decision in the matter, whether they propose introducing any Bill to amend the Nair Regulation in that respect or other respects, and if so, when?

ANSWER.

In every College, admission may be restricted (1) according to the accommodation available, and (2) according to the discretion of the Principal as to whether or not a pupil deserves admission, even though he is technically eligible for such admission. This discretion is vested in the Principals of Colleges by Rule VIII of the "Rules of directions of the Syndicate for the admission of holders of Secondary School Leaving Certificates to University Course of Study". So far, however, as His Highness the Maha Raja's College for Boys is concerned, the restriction in the number of admissions has been mainly determined by the accommodation available. Government have recognised the inadequacy of accommodation in the College to meet the increasing demands in recent years, and, with a view to remedy this defect, they have shifted the entire High School Department which was held in the College buildings to the new edifice at Vanchiyur. Government have also called upon the Chief Engineer to submit estimates for the execution of certain structural alterations in the College buildings for securing more accommodation and for the addition of a new hall for the College capable of holding 250 pupils. Government have further sanctioned the substantial extension of the Physical Science Laboratory and the prompt completion of the extension to the Chemical Laboratory already begun. These structural additions and alterations, when effected, will afford increased facilities for further admission.

The fact, however, should not be ignored that even with the best of accommodation, no class can hold an unlimited number of pupils, and that an undue overcrowding in this respect must naturally result in impaired efficiency.

Government have repeatedly laid down that, as far as possible, no Travancorean who holds an English School Leaving Certificate qualifying for admission to a University Course should be denied admission to His Highness the Maha Raja's College for Boys on the ground of want of accommodation.

Financial Secretary Mr. K. George.

The statement will be prepared and, when ready, laid on the table.

Secretary Mr. K. Narayanan Pandalay.

Mr. C. Raman Tampi, non-official Member of this Council, has been given permission to move for leave at this meeting to introduce a Bill to amend the Nair Regulation, I of 1088, embodying provisions relating to partition.

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